

September 18, 2025

As we finish the first quarter and head into one of the busiest months of the school year, I thought it would be good to communicate all that is going on at Trinity. Elementary teachers send home notes each Thursday. Preschool sends home "This Week at Trinity" each Friday via email plus sends Brightwheel reminders. Please read what you are sent each week. This letter contains information on not just the school part of our ministry (elementary, preschool and Foundry), but also events involving the congregation, including our Trinity Quilters. If you ever have questions, please speak with your child's teacher, Pastor Vanderhyde or myself. Frequent and clear communication is key to our partnership as school and families.

Gwen

Chapel – All classes in the school worship together in the church sanctuary on Wednesday mornings at 8:30. Family members are always welcome to join us. Usually, Pastor Vanderhyde leads the service, but we will have a guest speaker this coming Wednesday, 9/24. Michael Ersland has been working with Bible translators for many years. We supported his mission in Ghana with our chapel offerings two years ago. Our chapel offerings through Christmas will support his new mission project.

Firefighter visit – October is Fire Safety Month. We will have representatives from the Greeley Fire Department here on October 1 to speak to the Trinity kids after chapel. They will have at least one truck parked in the church parking lot for the children to observe – and maybe get to climb inside. The firefighters also speak to the children about fire safety.

End of the 1st quarter – Elementary teachers will hold parent teacher conferences after school on October 6 & 7. There will be sign-up sheets at the school entrance starting Monday, September 22, to sign up for a conference. SOMETIME NEXT WEEK, PLEASE PARK YOUR CAR IN THE PARKING LOT AND WALK IN TO SIGN UP FOR A CONFERENCE. Preschool teachers will do their conferences in November.

Preschool Schedules – Mrs. Schwartz will be at the Lutheran Education Convocation in St. Louis October 2 & 3. Miss Marshall will cover her class. Miss Marshall leaves for the Professional Workers Conference in Breckenridge on October 7. Mrs. Ewald will be on a family trip the week of October 13 (she may be back on Th or F); Miss Marshall will teach her class when she is gone. During those absences, Mrs. Joyce is coming back as a substitute for afternoons. It will be good to have her back in the building. We will also be starting a new classroom assistant in Mrs. Ewald's class. Miss Jadyn is leaving us at the end of September to begin a new chapter of her career. We will miss her, but know that God will continue to bless her in her new endeavor. Beginning October 17, we will have 2 preschool classes on Friday (PS and PK) instead of

combining like we did first quarter. We have too many students on Fridays to do a combination classroom with that wide of an age range. Mrs. Schwartz will only teach Foundry classes in the afternoon so that she can have her usual class in the mornings.

Foundry News – The current Foundry session will be completed October 3, and we will start up again with a new session on October 17. Some of the classes will remain the same, but others will be replaced with new options. Registration for the second session will open September 26. Watch for an email with the link to complete your registration.

Fall break – Trinity is closed completely October 8-10. There are no elementary, preschool, childcare or Foundry classes those days and the office is closed. Most of the teachers will be at the Professional Workers' Conference for our church body in Breckenridge those days.

Quilters – The Trinity Quilters will have their big fundraising event on October 11. There is a silent auction from 4:00-5:30 pm; they are seeking donations for baskets and gift cards. If you would like to promote your business by donating items for the auction, speak with Gwen. There will be a live auction starting at 6:15 to sell the quilts created by this group. The school hosts a meal in the cafeteria from 4:30-6:00 as part of the event. Miss Marshall is in charge of the kitchen for that – it is a wonderful chance for scholarship parents to get in some volunteer hours. The free-will offering at the meal goes to the elementary scholarship fund.

Field trip – Grades 3 & 4 are going on a field trip on October 16. Watch the newsletters from Ms. Miner for more details.

Preschool Snack Drive – Preschool is planning on special activities for fall that take more than just our budgeted funds. We will have a set of "snack cards" available after October 13. They will be on the kiosk at the school entrance. We are asking each preschool family to take a card and bring that item to their child's classroom by the following Monday. These will be items for snacks, art and games.

Butter braids – This is our big school fundraising event each year (between \$4000-5000). Students will bring home order forms before fall break. You can sell in person or use online ordering. There will be a cover letter with the order form with more details. **ALL ORDERS AND PAYMENTS MUST BE TURNED IN TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE BY NOON ON OCTOBER 31.** The Butter Braids arrive on November 12. You can pick up orders when you pick up your child that day.

School pictures – We have found a new photographer after not being happy with Josten's last year. A photographer will be here from 8:00-10:00 on October 23 & 24. The focus will be on getting as many students photographed as possible on the 23rd (Thursday). On the 24th, we will do preschoolers who were not here on Thursday and Foundry students. Elementary students will take class group pictures; preschool will not. More information on photo packages and how to dress for the day will come in future communications as the day draws near.

Cooks' night out – thanks to all who joined the dinner at the church. The event raised over \$1700 to start the 2025-26 scholarship fund campaign. Each month for the rest of the school year, the school will sponsor a night at a local restaurant. Watch for a flyer home in the days before the event; show the flyer to your server and a percentage of sales will go to Trinity. In October, get dinner on Friday, October 24, at Schwartz's Krautburger Kitchen (in the same shopping center as King Soopers on 35th). And yes, it is owned by the family of our preschool teacher, Mrs. Schwartz.

Fall Festival – We will have a school and congregation festival at the school on Saturday, October 25, from 11:00 to 1:00. The chili-cook off begins in the cafeteria at 11:00. There is a costume parade for children at 11:45. Starting at 12:00 noon, there will be "trunk-or-treat" in the school parking lot. If you would like to enter a chili in the contest or provide a "trunk", there will be a clipboard at the school entrance to sign up. You can also email Gwen at gmarshall@tlgreeley.com. As you are planning for costumes or a theme for your trunk, please refrain from anything scary or gory and nothing that includes weapons.

Reformation – The elementary children will be singing at the 8:00 worship service on Sunday, October 26. Students should arrive between 7:45-7:55 and gather in the fellowship hall in the church basement. We are observing Reformation Day that day, which is a festival in the Lutheran Church. Watch for a note home from your child's teacher about where to sit and what to wear.

Halloween – October 31 is a normal school day. Please do not let your child wear a costume to school that day (costumes are for the Fall Festival).

Church News – Trinity has started the process to call a second pastor to help with the growing ministry at Trinity. A call committee has been established and started their work this week. Please pray for this process – especially for wisdom and discernment for the committee members.

Sunday Bible Study – If you do not have a church home, you are welcome to worship with us at Trinity. Services are at 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. If you would like to know more about what we believe and confess as Lutherans, Pastor Vanderhyde leads a Bible study between services. There is Sunday School available for children ages 3 and older.

Small Group – Families with young children meet at the school on the first and third Wednesday evening each month. There is a potluck meal that begins at 5:30. From 6:00-7:00, moms and dads have time for Bible study while Miss Marshall and Mrs. Ortado have activities for the children. Speak with Miss Marshall or Mrs. Ewald if you have questions.